

**Town of Felton  
Town Council Meeting  
May 9, 2011  
7:00pm**

Mayor Kelley called the Town Council of Felton Meeting to order at 7:00pm on Monday, May 9, 2011. Present at the meeting were:

**Council Members:** Mayor Kelley, Vice-Mayor Joanne Clendaniel, Kevin Fletcher and Anthony Carroll.

**Staff:** Town Manager, Rebecca Greene; Chief of Police, Levi D. Brown; Town Clerk, Sarah Ferguson.

**Public:** Patty Smith, Barbara Fajnor, Janette Carroll, Ivette Sanchez and Antonio Sanchez – Residents

**Citizen Concerns:**

Mrs Fajnor asked why the abandoned car on Ludlow is still there and Rebecca responded that letters were sent out and that the owner has a certain amount of time to respond. Councilwoman Clendaniel asked what the Town's policy is on abandoned vehicles and Rebecca stated that since there were thirty letters sent out they were sent out regular mail and if there is no response she will send them out certified. If the letters are sent out certified the owner has ten days to respond and if there is still no response the Police Department will tag and tow the vehicle.

Mrs Fajnor noted that there is work going on at the unfinished house on Fan Branch and Rebecca commented that the house had been sold to a contractor.

**Police Report:**

Chief Brown reviewed the Police Report for April 2011 (see attached). He stated that the tickets for April 2011 were:

| <b>Officer</b> | <b>2010 Reg</b> | <b>2010 SEU</b> | <b>2010 Total</b> | <b>2011 Reg</b> | <b>2011 SEU</b> | <b>2011 Total</b> |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>9451</b>    | 195             | 16              | <b>211</b>        | 109             | 34              | <b>143</b>        |
| <b>9452</b>    | 269             | 74              | <b>343</b>        | 159             | 91              | <b>250</b>        |
| <b>9453</b>    | 128             |                 | <b>128</b>        |                 |                 | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>9454</b>    | 99              |                 | <b>99</b>         | 62              | 17              | <b>79</b>         |
| <b>9455</b>    | 155             |                 | <b>155</b>        | 64              |                 | <b>64</b>         |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>846</b>      | <b>90</b>       | <b>936</b>        | <b>394</b>      | <b>142</b>      | <b>536</b>        |

Councilman Fletcher asked why the Police Department had so few patrol hours even when the fact that they have one less officer is taken into account. Chief Brown stated that Officer Guild was only able to work five hours in April because of his work on base.

Councilwoman Clendaniel asked why there were so many parking tickets and Chief Brown stated that Little League has started again and people are parking illegally.

**Motion:** Councilman Fletcher made a motion to accept the Police Report. Councilwoman Clendaniel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Budget Report:**

Rebecca presented the April Budget Report and asked if there were any questions. Council reviewed the Budget Report and had no questions.

**Motion:** Councilman Fletcher made a motion to accept the Budget Report. Councilwoman Clendaniel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes:**

Mayor Kelley presented the April 11, 2011 Town Council Meeting Minutes and the May 3, 2011 Planning and Zoning Meeting Minutes asking if there were any questions or corrections.

Councilman Fletcher asked how the "Take it Back" Campaign worked out for the Felton Police Department and Rebecca stated that it went very well and that they collected almost fifty (50) pounds of unwanted medications.

Councilman Fletcher asked if there was any progress on the house with pet cages out front and Rebecca replied that she had sent a certified letter which was signed for and they need to wait the required time.

**Motion:** Councilman Carroll made a motion to accept the April 11, 2011 Town Council Meeting Minutes and the May 3, 2011 Planning and Zoning Meeting Minutes. Councilman Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Citizen's Concerns (continued):**

Mrs Sanchez stated that she had heard rumors that a Dollar General will be built in the commercial area of Hidden Pond. She is against a Dollar General being allowed to be placed there and Rebecca responded that the property is zoned Commercial so as long as they meet the Commercial requirements the Town can not prevent them from building at that location.

Mrs Sanchez stated that she is concerned about the traffic coming in and out of Dollar General with the kids from the Day Care so close. Rebecca stated that she has not seen any requests from Dollar General and have not heard anything from them.

Mrs Sanchez asked if residents will be notified and Rebecca stated that there will be a Planning and Zoning meeting and the agenda will be posted at the Post Office, Town Hall and online on the Town's website.

Mrs Fajnor asked when the top coat of asphalt at Hidden Pond will be completed and Rebecca replied that once the development is 85% complete the Town can require the asphaltting be completed.

Councilman Carroll stated that he spoke to Mr Blades (co-owner of Building Blocks Daycare) about the bushes around the daycare that have died. Mr Blades told Councilman Carroll that he will replace the bushes in the fall. Rebecca stated that Mr Blades needs to come into Town Hall

and talk to her about the bushes because he did not put in the bushes that he told the Town he was going to use.

**Water Abatement Request:**

Rebecca stated that Mr Williams installed a toilet incorrectly so it was leaking internally. When the meters were read Ralph noticed that a lot of water was used and Sarah notified Mrs Williams. The Williams immediately repaired the toilet.

Councilwoman Clendaniel asked how many abatements there have been in the last five years and Rebecca replied that under \$1,000 have been abated. Councilwoman Clendaniel stated that she did not want to set a precedent.

Mayor Kelley stated that in the twenty years that he has been on Council he has not seen that many of these cases and that each time Council looked at the facts and made a decision. The Mayor believes that each case should be looked at individually and Councilman Carroll agreed.

**Motion:** Councilman Carroll made a motion to abate the water overage due to the leak. Councilman Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilwoman Clendaniel voting against.

**2012 FY Budget:**

Rebecca asked if there were any questions or comments on the 2012 Fiscal Year Budget. Councilman Fletcher asked why there is an increase in every department except the Water Department and Rebecca replied that there is no payroll in the Water Department so there was no increase. Councilman Fletcher what would happen if there was a major water leak and Rebecca stated that there was \$5,000 in the repair line but if it was a major leak the repair money would come from the Water Impact Account.

Councilwoman Clendaniel asked why there was a 14% increase in the Community Center budget and Rebecca explained that she increased the heat and electric line by \$200 but since the Community Center was such a small budget any small amount is a large percentage increase.

Councilwoman Clendaniel asked why the Police Department had such a large increase and Rebecca said that since she does not know if the new hire will be married or not so she used the highest amount for the benefits.

Councilman Fletcher said that the budget looks great and asked if there would be any carry over and Rebecca replied that it looks like there will be around a \$93,000 carry over from this year.

Councilman Carroll asked if there will be any additional funds for the Odd Fellows fence and Rebecca said that Council will have to look at that during next month's Council Meeting.

Councilman Carroll asked about Police vehicles and Chief Brown stated that they can get through the summer then purchase a new vehicle in the fall. Rebecca added that the Town has some Municipal Street Aid funds and hope to receive more this upcoming year and by adding them together should be able to purchase a new Police vehicle.

**Motion:** Councilman Fletcher made a motion to accept the 2011 FY Budget. Councilman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Brown added that he had narrowed the Police Officer applications down to two candidates that are both certified and they will be interviewed this week.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Clendaniel made a motion to adjourn Council Meeting. Councilman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sarah Ferguson, Town Clerk prepared these minutes.

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Sarah Ferguson

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Date